# Post Offices in Northern Illinois, 1837

**Roger Matile**

In 1814, the U.S. Congress approved legislation requiring the extension of mail service to the *seat* of local government in all existing counties in the several states and to new seats of government whenever new counties were established. The law assured that as new states - and their counties - were established in the Northwest Territory, mail service would officially tie the new regions to the more established Eastern states. '

Upon his election to the Presidency, Andrew Jackson used Congress's interest in extending post offices and post roads to advance his own political agenda. Jackson essentially invented the modern patronage system, and, through his vigorous and talented postmaster general, Amos Kendall, used the appointment of post-masters to extend his political influence to virtually every corner of the nation.'

In the June 30, 1837 edition of the *Illinois State Register* and *People's Advocate,* published in the Illinois state capital at Vandalia, Kendall advertised for bids on carrying the mail from 1 January 1838 through 30 June 1842. A total of 112 Illinois postal routes were listed, 28 of them for service to northern Illinois destinations (defined here as post offices generally north of Peoria), The route listings filled columns 6-7 on page 2 of the paper and columns 1-6 on page 3. The bid specifications were re-published weekly thereafter until early autumn, apparently to give prospective contractors time to submit their bids. Since most of the mail was required to be carried in post coaches or stage wagons - **which** needed roads, no matter **how prim-itive -** the designed routes offer an interesting snapshot of **the** road system as it existed in **the** northern third of Illinois in 1837.

Below is a listing of **the 28** routes advertised to serve **northern Illinois, complete with the** introduction and **the concluding explana-tory notes, which specify the** conditions of service required of bid-ders. **Each numbered route includes the** origin and terminus post

offices, plus intermediate offices, the route's estimated mileage, and any special requirements postal officials deemed necessary, such as a later start for service on the route in question or requirements that the mails be carried in a special vehicle, such as a four horse post coach. Spellings in the original have been retained. Clarifications added by the editor are included in square brackets. Where possible, the post offices listed have been footnoted and referenced using information from 19th Century atlases, contemporary maps, local and regional histories, and the *Listing of Illinois Post Offices by County* published in 1981 by the Illinois Postal History Society. This valuable reference was compiled by members of the society (which has now apparently dissolved), who searched through microfilmed postal service records concerning the establishment of post offices and appointment of postmasters throughout Illinois. Unless otherwise indicated in the notes, the post offices listed below remain active.

Proposals for carrying the mails of the United States from the 1st of January, 1838 (except as hereinafore stated.) to the 30th of June, 1842, on the following post routes in Illinois, will be received at the department until the 10th day of October next, inclusive, to be decided by the 21st day of said month.

On routes where the existing contracts have been extended to the 30th June 1838, the new service (unless it be of a higher degree than that now in operation) will be made to commence on the 1st of July next. These cases are especially noted under their respective numbers.

2785: From Peoria' by Rome', Henry', Hennepin', Peru[7], and Utica' to Ottawa', 81 miles and back three times a week in four horse post coaches. (Proposals will also be considered for carrying the mail by steamboats on the above route) Leave Peoria every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 2 a.m., arrive at Ottawa same days by 12 [mid] night. Leave Ottawa every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 a.m., arrive at Peoria same days by 12 night. Proposals will also be considered for carrying the mail by steamboats on the above route. 2786: From Peoria by Little Detroit'', Black Partridge'', Crow Meadows'', Magnolia,' Sandy Creek'', Boyles, Point Republic'', and

Vermillionville to Ottawa, 67 miles and back three times a week in four horse post coaches. Leave Peoria every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 3 a.m., arrive at Ottawa same days by 8 p.m. Leave Ottawa every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 3 a.m., arrive at Peoria same days by 8 p.m, Proposals for carrying mail once a week on horse will also be considered.

2787: From Peoria by Byrd's Grove", Providence", Dixon's Ferry", Buffalo Grove, Cherry Grovel, and Apple River", to Galena", 135 miles and back three times a week in four horse post coaches. Leave Peoria every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 6 a.m, arrive at Galena every Thursday, Saturday, and Monday, by 4 p.m. Leave Galena every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 6 a.m, arrive at Peoria every Thursday, Saturday, and Monday, by 4 p.m.

2788. From Peoria by Robbins Nest`, Knox C.H.[13], and Warren C.H.", to Oquawke, 82 miles and back *twice* a week in stages. Leave Peoria every Sunday and Thursday at 5 a.m, arrive at Oquawka next days by 7 p.m. Leave Oquawka every Tuesday and Saturday at 5 a.m, arrive at Peoria next days by 7 p.m.

2789. From Knox C.F.I. by Wyoming[2] and Boyd's Grove to Hennepin, 64 miles and back once a week. Leave Knox C.H. every Wednesday at 6 a.m, arrive at Hennepin next day by 5 p.m. Leave Hennepin every Friday at 6 p.m, arrive at Knox C.H. next day by 5 p.m. Service to commence on the 1st July, 1838.

2790: From Knox C.H. by Henderson", White Oak Grove', Cleaveland", and Savannah" to Galena, 120 miles and back once a week. Leave Knox C.H. every Thursday at 4 p.m., arrive at Galena every Sunday by 12 noon. Leave Galena every Sunday at 1 p.m., arrive at Knox C.H. every Wednesday by 8 p.m. Service is to commence **the 1st** July, 1838.

2791. From Knox C.H. by Middle Grove to Canton', 29 miles and back once a week. Leave Knox C.H. every **Thursday at 6 a m, arrive**

**at Canton same day by 5 p.m. Leave Canton every Friday at 6 a.m, arrive at Knox C.H. same day by 5 p.m.**

**2792. From Warren C.H. by Clear Creek" to New Boston'', 27 miles and back twice a week in stages. Leave Warren C.H. every Tuesday and Saturday at 6 a.m, arrive at New Boston same days by 4 p.m. Leave New Boston every Monday and Friday at 6 a.m, arrive at Warren C.H. same days by 4 p.m.**

**2793: From Warren C.H. by Spring Grove, Farlow's Grove's, Stephenson", Port Byron', Port Newbury", Savannah, and Hanover" to Galena, 133 miles and back twice a week in stages. Leave Warren C.H. every Tuesday and Saturday at 5 a.m., arrive at Galena every Friday and Tuesday by 6 p.m. Leave Galena every Friday and Tuesday at 5 a.m., arrive at Warren C.H. every Monday and Friday by 6 p.m.**

**2794. From New Boston by Pine Bluffs to Stephenson, 40 miles and back once a week. Leave New Boston every Wednesday at 4 a.rn, arrive at Stephenson same day by 8 p.m. Leave Stephenson every Thursday at 4 a.m, arrive at New Boston same day by 8 p.m. Service is to commence on the first July, 1838.**

**2785 [should be 2795]. From Stephenson by Windsor and Princeton's to Hennepin, 85 miles and back once a week. Leave Stephenson every Sunday at 6 a.m, arrive at Hennepin every Tuesday by 12 noon. Leave Hennepin every Tuesday at 2 p.m., arrive at Stephenson every Thursday by 5 p.m. Service is to commence on the 1st July, 1838.**

**2796. From Stephenson to Davenport, 3 miles and back once a week. Leave Stephenson every Sunday at 9 a.m., arrive at Davenport same day by 11 a.m. Leave Davenport every Sunday at 6 a.m., arrive at Stephenson same day by 8 a.m. Service is to commence on the 1st July, 1838.**

**2797. From Buffalo Grove by Savanna to Belleview, Wis., 40 miles and back once a week. Leave Buffalo Grove every Thursday at 3 a.m,**

**arrive at Belleview same day by 9 p.m. Leave Belleview every Friday at 4 a.m, arrive at Buffalo Grove same day by 10 p.m.**

**2798. From Galena by Medway', Squaw Prairie, Belvidere", Elgin', and Nileacham's Grove to Chicago", 150 miles and back three times a week in four horse post coaches. Leave Galena every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6 a.m., arrive at Chicago every Wednesday, and Friday, and Sunday by 6 p.m. Leave Chicago every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6 a.m., arrive at Galena every Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday by 6 p.m.**

**2799. From Dixon's Ferry by Inlet', Pawpaw Grove', Somonauk", Little Rock=, Aurora", Napierville, and Brush Hill" to Chicago, 108 miles and back once a week. Leave Dixon's Ferry every Monday at 6 a.m., arrive at Chicago every Wednesday by 6 p.m. Leave Chicago every Thursday at 6 a.m., arrive at Dixon's Ferry every Saturday by 6 p.m.**

**2800. From Dixon's Ferry by Lodi'" and Plainfield", to Juliet'[8]90 miles and back once a week. Leave Dixon's Ferry every Monday at 6 a.m., arrive at Juliet every Wednesday by 4 p.m. Leave Juliet every Thursday at 6 a.m., arrive at Dixon's Ferry every Saturday by 4 p.m. Service to commence on the 1st July 1838.**

**2801: From Dixon's Ferry by Troy Grove to Ottawa, 50 miles and back once a week. Leave Dixon's Ferry every Wednesday at 1 p.m., arrive at Ottawa next day by 6 p.m. Leave Ottawa every Tuesday at 6 a.m., arrive at Dixon's Ferry next day by** 12 **noon. Service to commence on the 1st July, 1838.**

**2802. From Hennepin, by Princeton, Brigham's and Dimmick's Grove, to Pawpaw Grove, 60 miles and back once a week. Leave Hennepin every Tuesday at 6 a.m., arrive at Pawpaw Grove next day by 5 p.m. Leave Pawpaw Grove every Thursday at 6 a.m., arrive at Hennepin next day by 5 p.m.**

2803. From Ottawa by Lisbon°, Plainfield, Dupage"' and Cassb[2] to Chicago, 83 miles and back three times a week in four horse post coaches. Leave Ottawa every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 3 a.m., arrive at Chicago same days by 9 p.m. Leave Chicago every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 3 a.m., arrive at Ottawa by 9 p.m.

2804. From Ottawa by Marseilles°, DresdenTM, Kankakee°, Juliet, Lockport°, and Des Plaines' to Chicago, 91 miles and back three times a week in four horse post coaches. Leave Ottawa every Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday at 2 a.m., arrive at Chicago same days by 10 p.m. Leave Chicago every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 2 a.m., arrive at Ottawa same days by 10 p.m.

2805. From Ottawa by Lodi, [to] Napierville, 60 miles and back once a week. Leave Ottawa every Wednesday at 6 a.m. arrive at Napierville next day by 5 p.m. Leave Napierville every Friday at 6 a.m., arrive at Ottawa next day by 5 p.m. Service to commence on the 1st July, 1838.

2806. From Ottawa to Danville°, 120 miles and back once a week. Leave Ottawa every Wednesday at 6 a.m., arrive at Danville every Saturday by 5 p.m. Leave Danville every Wednesday at 6 a.m, arrive at Ottawa every Saturday by 5 p.m. Service is to commence on the 1st July, 1838.

2807. From Ottawa to Bloomington", 65 miles and back once [a] week. Leave Ottawa every Monday at 6 a.m, arrive at Bloomington next day by 5 p.m. Leave Bloomington every Wednesday at 6 a.m, arrive at Ottawa next by 5 p.m.

2808. From Bloomington by Pontiac", Lexington, and Kankakee, to Juliet, 100 miles and back once a week. Leave Bloomington every Wednesday at 6 a.m, arrive at Juliet every Friday by 5 p.m. Leave Juliet every Saturday at 6 a.m, arrive at Bloomington every Monday by 5 p.m. Service to commence on the 1st July, 1838.

**2809. From Bloomington by Senex[7]', Cheney's Grove, Van Buren', and Union", to Danville, 8-6 miles and back twice a week. Leave Bloomington every Monday and Wednesday at 4 a.m, arrive at Danville next days by 10 p.m. Leave Danville every Wednesday and Sunday at 4 a.m., arrive at Bloomington next days by 10 p.m.**

**2810. From Bloomfield' to Montezuma, Ia., 20 miles and back once a week. Leave Bloomfield every Saturday at 4 a.m., arrive at Montezuma same day by 12 noon. Leave Montezuma every Saturday at 1 *p.m.,* arrive at Bloomfield same day by 9 p.m.**

**2811: Danville by North Fork", Driftwood', Iroquois', and Forked Creek' to Juliet three times a week in four horse post coaches. Leave Danville every Monday Wednesday and Friday at three a m, arrive at Juliet next days by 10 p.m. Leave Juliet every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 3 a.m., arrive at Danville next days by 10 p.m.**

**2812: Juliet by Thornton", Lake C.H., Ia., [Ind.?] Liverpool, and Coffee creek to Michigan city, 80 miles and back twice a week in stages. Leave Juliet every Monday and Thursday at 4 a.m., arrive at Michigan City next days by 7 p.m. Leave Michigan City every Monday and Thursday at 4 a.m, and arrive at Juliet next days by 7 p.m.**

**2813: From Chicago by Chambere, Elk Grove, and McClure's Grove 33 miles and back twice a week. Leave Chicago every Friday at 6 a.m. arrive at McClure's Grove same day by 7 p.m. Leave McClure's Grove every Saturday at 6 a.m., arrive at Chicago same day by 7 p.m. Service commences the 1st July, 1838. Hadley' to be supplied from Juliet, 9 miles and back once a week. LaFox to be supplied from Aurora once a week. Sycamore' to be supplied from Napierville and back once a week.**

**"Notes**

**I. Each route must be bid separately. The route, the sum, *the* mode of service, and the residence of the bidder, should be distinctly stated in each bid.**

**8.He may annul the contract for repeated failures to perform any of the stipulations, for refusing to discharge a carrier when required, for violating the Post Office law, for disobeying the instructions of** the **department, or assigning a** contract without the previous consent of the Postmaster General.

**9.If** the contractor shall run a stage or other vehicle **more rapidly or more frequently than he is required by the contract to carry the mail, he shall give the same increased** *celerity* **and frequency to** the mail, and without increase of compensation.

**10.Contractors on stage and coach routes shall, in the conveyance of passengers, give a preference to those** who are brought in the connecting mail **lines, over those traveling in any other; so that connecting mail stage routes shall form continuous travelling lines.**

**11.On** routes where the mail is transported in **stages, and** the present contractor shall be superseded by an underbidder, who may not have the stage property requisite for the performance of that contract, he shall purchase from the present contractor such of the stage **horses and property as may be suitable for the services, at a fair valuation, and make payment therefor by reasonable installments. Should they not agree as to the suitableness of the property the terms, or the security, each may choose a person who may appoint a third, and their decision shall be final, or the Postmaster General will name the umpire. This will be made the condition of any bid under that of a present contractor; and should the underbidder fail to comply, his bid will be offered to the contractor; but should he decline it, the proposals of the underbidder will be accepted unconditionally.**

**12.The Postmaster General is prohibited by law from making contracts for the transportation of the mail** with any person who shall have **entered into any combination, or proposed to** enter into **any combination, to prevent the making of any bid for a mail contract by any other person or persons; or who shall have made any agreement,** or shall have given **or performed or promised to give or perform, any consideration to do, or not to do, any thing whatever to induce any** other not to bid **for a mail contract.**

**13.On post** coach and stage routes where that kind of transportation is sometimes difficult, proposals will be received for carry-

ing the mails on horseback, in wagons, or carts for a specified number of months, weeks, or days in each year; but no dispensation of post coach or stage service will be tolerated unless it be stipulated for in the proposals and embraced in the contract.

14. The proposals should be sent to the Department sealed and endorsed "Mail proposals in the State of ," and addressed to the First Assistant Postmaster General, S.R. Hubbie.

AMOS KENDALL
Post Office Department
June 6, 1837"

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Notes

1 *Public Statutes at Large of the United States of America.* (Charles C. Little and James Brown. Boston, 1846), III: 132-133 For a full — and entertaining — discussion of the impact the U.S. Post Office had on settlement following the Post Office Act of 1792, see *Spreading the News: The American Postal System from Franklin to Morse by Richard R. John* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1995).

2 Amos Kendall was born in 1789 on a farm near Dunstable, Middlesex County, Mass. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1811 and went on to Groton, Conn. where he taught at the local academy and read law, In 1814, he went west to Lexington, Ky., where he met the politically powerful Clay family. Col. Richard M. Johnson, another power in Kentucky politics, sponsored Kendall's establishment of the *Argus of Western America* at Frankfort, one of the region's pioneer newspapers. In 1826, he changed his support from Clay to Jackson, and supported the general's election in 1828. Following Jackson's election, Kendall went to Washington as a speechwriter and a member of the administration's powerful "Kitchen Cabinet." He was appointed Postmaster General in 1835. He reportedly proved effective in the office and was credited, *even* by his enemies, with increasing the agency's efficiency and finances. He retired from office in 1840, unsuccessfully tried newspapering again before becoming business manager for Samuel F.B. Morse's new invention, the telegraph, a venture that made him a wealthy man. He died in 1869 and is buried under an imposing obelisk in Glenwood Cemetery, Washington, D.C. For more on Kendall and his times, see *The Age of Jackson* by Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., Little Brown & Company, Boston, 1945.

3 The Peoria Pest Office was established in Fulton County on 8 March 1823 and discontinued 9 Oct. 1823. It was reestablished following the formation of Peoria County on 9 April 1825, and is still active.

4 Rome Post Office was established in Peoria County as La Salle on 20 July 1832. The name was changed to Rome on 16 Oct. 1835, and the post office was discontinued 23 May 1842. It was reestablished as Rome Farms 8 May 1854, with the name changed to Rome on 24 March 1865.

5 Henry Post Office was established in Putnam County on 18 Nov. 1836. It was transferred to Marshall County upon its creation on 19 Jan. 1839.

6 Hennepin Post Office was established 31 Oct. 1831 in Putnam County.

7 Peru Post Office was established 10 Feb. 1836. The name was changed to LaSalle on 10 Jan. 1838, and then changed back to Peru on 29 Feb. 1848.

Utica Post Office was established on 21 March 1837.

9 Ottawa Post Office was established on 20 Dec. 1832.

10 Little Detroit Post Office was established 20 Sept. 1833 in Tazewell County. The name was changed to East Peoria 23 Oct. 1863 and changed back to Little Detroit 3 June 1867 before being discontinued 4 April 1871. It was reestablished as Fon Chi Lac on 26 March 1872 before being discontinued for good on 2 July 1883.

11 Black Partridge Post Office was established 4 Feb. 1836 in Tazewell County. The name was changed to Partridge Point 7 June 1837. It became part of Woodford County upon its establishment on 27 Feb. 1841 The name was changed to Metamora 23 Aug. 1845.

12 Crow Meadows was established 4 Jan. 1834 in what was then Putnam County. It became part of Marshall County upon its creation on 19 Jan. 1839. The Crow Meadows Post Office was discontinued 27 Aug. 1866.

13 Magnolia Post Office was established in Putnam County on 23 Nov. 1836.

14 Sandy Creek Post Office was established in Putnam County on 2 March 1833. It was discontinued 9 Nov. 1836.

15 Point Republic Post Office was established in LaSalle County as Vermilion on 27 April 1833. It was changed to Point Republic on 6 April 1836 and changed again to Tonica Station on 7 March 1854. It received its final name-Tonica-on 10 April 1854.

16 Vermillionville Post Office was established in LaSalle County 9 March 1835. Its name was changed to Lowell Post Office 31 Jan. 1850 before being discontinued 14 Feb. 1903.

17 This may be Boyd's Grove, not Boyle's_ Boyd's Grove was established in Putnam County on 29 Oct. 1833 and transferred to Bureau County upon its establishment 28 Feb. 1837. It was discontinued 2 April 1840.

18 Providence Post Office was established in Bureau County on 24 March 1837. It was discontinued 23 Feb. 1903.

19 Dixon's Ferry Post Office was established in Ogee's Ferry in Jo Daviess County on 25 May 1829. It was changed to Dixon's Ferry on 23 Nov. 1833. It was transferred to Lee County upon its establishment on 27 Feb. 1839. The name was changed again to Dixon on 3 Jan. 1842.

20 Buffalo Grove Post Office was established on 12 Feb. 1833 in Jo Daviess County. It was transferred to Ogle County upon its creation on 17 Jan. 1836. The name was changed to Polo on 30 Jan. 1856.

21 Cherry Grove Post Office was established 5 Sept. 1836 in Jo Daviess County. It was transferred to Carroll County upon its establishment on 22 Feb. 1839. The name was changed to Lanark on 6 Dec. 1861.

22 Apple River Post Office was established in Jo Daviess County on 11 Dec. 1828. The name was changed to Elizabeth on 25 Nov. 1842s.

23 Galena Post Office was established as the Fever River Post Office on 4 June 1825. It was changed to Galena on 5 Jan. 1826.

24 Robins Nest Post Office was established on 18 Feb. 1837 in Peoria County. The name was changed to Jubilee on 25 June 1883. It was discontinued 13 Sept. 1902.

25 The Knox Court House Post Office was established 10 Sept. 1830 following the establishment of Knox County 13 Jan. 1825. The name was changed to Knoxville on 19 Jan. 1844.

26 Warren Court House Post Office was established 13 Dec. 1830. The name was changed to Monmouth on 20 July 1841.

27 Oquawka Post Office was established as Yellow Banks in Warren County on 25 Aug. 1833. The name was changed to Oquawka on 5 Aug. 1836.

28 Wyoming Post Office was established at Spoon River in Putnam County on 20 April 1832. It was changed to Goshen on 18 Nov. 1834, then changed to Spoon River again on 24 Jan. 1835 before being permanently named Wyoming on 14 Dec. 1835. It was transferred to Stark County when it was created on 2 March 1839.

29 Henderson Post Office was established 1 May 1837.

30 Probably located in Henry County

31 Cleveland Post Office was established in Henry County in the 1830s, then discontinued. It was reestablished 7 Oct. 1869 and was discontinued for good on 15 July 1911.

32 Savanna Post Office was established 2 Nov. 1835 in Jo Daviess County. It was transferred to Carroll County on 22 Feb. 1839 when that county was established.

33 Middle Grove Post Office was established on 4 June 1834 in Fulton County. Changed to Middlegrove on 20 March 1894 and discontinued sometime between 1962 and 1974.

34 Canton Post Office was established in Fulton County on 3 Aug. 1826

35 Possibly located in Henderson County

36 New Boston Post Office was established on 27 August 1835 in Mercer County.

37 Spring Grove Post *Office* was established 3 Oct. 1831 in Warren County and discontinued 26 Aug. 1881.

38 Farlow's Grove Post Office was established in Mercer County on 4 Nov. 1836. It was discontinued 7 April 1858.

39 Stephenson Post Office was established in Rock Island County as Farnahamsburgh on 4 April 1834. The name was changed to Stephenson on 9 Nov. 1835 and changed again to Rock Island on 13 April 1841.

40 Port Byron Post Office was established as Canaan in Rock Island County on 30 Dec. 1833. The name was changed to Port Byron on 11 March 1837.

41 Port Newbury Post Office was established in Whiteside County 7 Feb. 1837. The name was changed to Albany on 6 July 1838.

42 Hanover Post Office was established in Jo Daviess County on 14 July 1836.

43 Princeton Post Office was established as Greenfield in Putnam County on 20 *Dec.* 1832. The name was changed to Princeton on 20 Dec. 1832. It was transferred to Bureau County upon its establishment 28 Feb. 1837.

44 According to Quaife in *Chicago Highways Old and New,* p. 94, Midway was the

early name for Rockford. The Rockford Post Office was established 31 Aug. 1837.

45 Belvidere Post Office was established in Winnebago County on 15 *Feb.* 1837. It was transferred to Boone County upon its creation 4 March 1837.

46 The Elgin Post Office was established in *Kane* County on 19 July 1837.

47 Meacham's Grove Post Office was established in Cook County with the name changed to Bloomingdale. It was transferred to DuPage County upon its establishment on 9 Feb. 1839.

48 The Chicago Post Office was established in Cook County on 31 March 183].

49 Inlet Post Office was established on 1 April 1836 in Jo Daviess County. It was transferred to Lee County upon the county's formation on 27 Feb. 1839, and was renamed Lee Center on 5 April 1847.

50 Pawpaw Grove Post Office was established 18 Nov. 1836 in LaSalle County It *was* transferred to Lee County in 1839. Its name was changed to PawPaw on 21 May 1883.

51 Somonauk Post Office was established 29 March 1836 in Kane County. It was transferred to DeKalb County on its formation on 4 March 1837. The name was changed to Freeland on 26 Dec. 1855, and it was discontinued 23 March 1886. The modern Somonauk Post Office was established as Buck Branch on 18 May 1850, changed to Somonoc Depot on 21 Jan. 1854, and changed to its present name on 26 December 1855.

52 Little Rock Post Office was established 21 March 1837 in Kane County. It was transferred to Kendall County upon its formation on 19 Feb. 1841. It was discontinued on 31 July 1900.

53 The Aurora Post Office was established 2 March 1837 in Kane County.

54 The Naperville Post Office was established I March 1836 *in* Cook County. It was transferred to DuPage County upon its establishment on 9 Feb. 1839.

55 The Brush Hill Post Office was established in Cook County on 10 March 1835. It was transferred to DuPage County in 1839. The name was changed to Fullersburg on 3 Feb. 1859. It was discontinued on 15 Sept. 1908.

56 Lodi Post Office was established in Kane County on 24 Jan. 1837. It was renamed Oswego on 31 July 1838. In 1841 it was transferred to Kendall County

57 The Plainfield Post Office was established in Cook County on 6 Jan. 1834. It was transferred to Will County when it was formed on 12 Jan. 1836.

58 Juliet Post Office was established in Cook County on 29 June 1833. The name was changed to Romeo on 29 Oct. 1833 and then back to Juliet on 27 Feb. 1834. It was transferred to Will County in 1836. The name was changed to Joliet on 24 May 1845.

59 Troy Grove Post Office was established in LaSalle County on 21 March 1837.

60 The Lisbon Post Office was established as Holderrnan's Grove in LaSalle County on 4 April 1834. The name - and the location - was changed to Lisbon on 17 Sept. 1836. It was discontinued between 1953 and 1957.

61 DuPage Post Office was established in Cook County on 26 July 1633. It was transferred to Will County in 1836. It was discontinued on 1 Aug. 1854.

62 Cass Post Office was established 3 Oct. 1834 in Cook County. It was transferred to DuPage County in 1839 and discontinued 25 Nov. 1885.

63 Marseilles Post Office was established 9 Nov. 1835 in LaSalle County

64 Dresden Post Office was established prior to 1842 Its name was changed to Sandy Ridge on 24 Aug. 1859. It was discontinued 12 June 1863.

**65 Kankakee Post Office was established 6 May 1836 in Will County. It was changed to Bulbona's Grove 15 March 1838. It was transferred to Kankakee County upon its establishment on 11 Feb. 1853. The name was changed to Burbounais Grove in 1855 and changed again to Bourbonnais on 20 June 1892.**

**66 Lockport Post Office was established 21 March 1837.**

**67 DesPlaines Post Office was established in Cook County 21 March 1837.1t was discontinued on 18 Feb. 1850.**

**68 Danville Post Office was established as Vermilion Court House on 27 March 1826. It was changed to Danville on 3 May 1827.**

**69 Bloomington Post Office was established as Blooming Grove in Tazewell County on 29 Jan. 1829. It was transferred to McLean County upon its formation 25 Dec. 1830. It** *was* **renamed Bloomington on 2 May 1831.**

**70 Pontiac Post Office was established in McLean County on 15 Feb. 1837. It was transferred to Livingston County on 27 Feb. 1837.**

**71 Senex Post Office was established in McLean County on 2 July 1834. The name was changed to Arrowsmith on 18 Dec. 1872.**

**72 Cheney's Grove Post Office was established 6 July 1831 in McLean County. The name was changed to Saybrook on 7 Sept. 1865.**

**73 Van Buren Post Office was established on 3 Aug. 1830 in Vermilion County. It was transferred to Champaign County on 20 Feb. 1833, and discontinued 6 Sept. 1845.**

**74 Union Post Office was established in Vermilion County on 15 March 1830. It was transferred to Champaign County in 1833 and renamed Homer on 19 Oct. 1841.**

**75 Located in Adams County.**

**76 North Fork Post Office was established in Vermilion County on 1 April 1836. The name was changed to Rossville on 31 Jan. 1863.**

*77* **Driftwood Post Office was established in Iroquois County on 15 October 1833. The name was changed to Milford on 13 March 1840.**

**78 Iroquois Post Office was established in Iroquois County on 2 March 1833.**

**79 The Forked Creek Post Office was established in Iroquois County on 24 July 1835. The name was changed to Reid's Store on 24 July 1838 and changed again to Rockville on 26 Oct. 1838. It was discontinued 29 Nov. 1902.**

**80 Thornton Post Office was established in Cook County on 28 Jan. 1837.**

**81 This might be Chamblee Post Office in Cook County, opened 24 Jan, 1837 and closed 13 Feb. 1840.**

**82 Elk Grove Post Office was established in Cook County 1 April 1837. It was closed 14 June 1904.**

**83 McClure's Grove Post Office** *was* **opened on 13 April 1837 in Kane County. The name was changed to Dundee on 3 Sept. 1841.**

**84 Hadley Post Office was established in Cook County on 27 July 1835. It** was transferred **to Will County upon its creation on 12 Jan. 1836. The post office was discontinued on 3 July 1899.**

**85 The Sycamore Post Office was established in Kane County on 27 Sept. 1836. It was transferred to DeKalb County upon its formation on 4 March 1837. The name was changed to Coltonville on 2 March 1838, and then changed back to Sycamore on 25 Aug. 1840.**

# Article Source:

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